

**EXHIBIT A**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Don J. CHANDLER *et al.*

Application No.: 09/826,960

Group Art Unit: 1773

Filed: April 6, 2001

Examiner: Hoa T. Le

For: MAGNETICALLY-RESPONSIVE  
MICROSPHERES

Attorney Docket No. 215063.02701

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants in the aforementioned matter petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated March 12, 2003, paper number 8, for two months from June 12, 2003 to August 12, 2003.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C., office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

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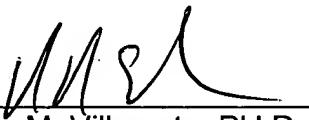
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**AUTHORIZATION**

Please find enclosed a check in the amount of \$205.00 for payment of the extension fee. Applicants believe there is no additional fee due in connection with this

filings. However, to the extent required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due in connection with this filing to Deposit Account 50-1710 or credit any overpayment to same.

Respectfully submitted,



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Patent Administrator  
KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN  
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Dated: August 12, 2003